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R N 29 NOV 2019 NO. 03

GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1391)

Name of Candidate	SIDAQ SINGH		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENG	Registration Number	160702
Center	KB	Date	29/11/2019

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
3	12.5	
4	12.5	
5	12.5	
6	12.5	
7	12.5	
8	12.5	
9	12.5	
10	12.5	
11	12.5	
12	12.5	
13	12.5	
14	12.5	
15	12.5	
16	12.5	
17	12.5	
18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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Answer all the questions in NOT MORE THAN 200 WORDS each. Content of the answers is more important than its length. All questions carry equal marks.
12.5X20=250

1. Enumerate important privileges enjoyed by each House of Parliament collectively and its members individually and also discuss their significance.

संसद के प्रत्येक सदन द्वारा सामूहिक रूप से एवं उसके सदस्यों द्वारा व्यक्तिगत रूप से उपभोग किये जाने वाले प्रमुख विशेषाधिकारों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए और साथ ही उनके महत्त्व की भी चर्चा कीजिए।

Parliamentary privileges are provided under Art. 105 of constitution. Their aim is to ensure independence in the functioning of Parliament.

Collective privileges

(I) Power to punish breach of parliament's privelege (in the hands of Speaker / Chairman)

(II) Right to publish proceedings of the house

(III) The speaker / Chairman can call for a session / meeting without any audience / people in gallery.

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(IV) Privilege to form Rules of Procedure of House under Art 118

Individual Priveleges

(I) Freedom of speech and expression to a parliamentarian

(II) Freedom from arrest 40 days before or after session

(III) Exemption from jury service.

Significance

(I) Ensure independence of parliament from undue influence. (began in England to shield parliamentarians from monarch)

(II) Ensures that no obstacle comes in way of parliament's proceeding (using of Breach of Privelege)

(III) Gives the parliamentarians right to express themselves in the

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house.

However codification of parliamentary privileges is the need of hour. Recently, 2 scribes were sent to prison by Karnataka assembly for breach of privilege. India needs to follow Australia which codified Parliamentary privileges in 1987.

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2. Give an account of the composition and functions of the Finance Commission as mentioned in the Constitution of India.
भारत के संविधान में यथा उल्लिखित वित्त आयोग की संरचना और कार्यों का विवरण दीजिए।

Under Art. 280, Finance Commission (FC) is a five membered body which consists of 2 experts. It is a tool of fiscal equilibrium with respect to centre and states.

Functions

(I) It recommends to the centre the devolution of funds to the states from the divisible pool of taxes.

(II) It also suggests how to augment the resources of the third tier of government

(III) It fixes the formula and

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weightage to be assigned to different factors which would decide devolution of taxes.

(IV) It would address / recommend over other heads specified by the government in its terms of reference

(V) As per 125th Constitutional Amendment Bill introduced in the Parliament, F.C would get power to devolve resources directly to Autonomous District Councils.

(VI) 14th Finance Commission introduced ~~the~~ performance based grants to local bodies.

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Issues

(I) Southern states are concerned over the population data which would be considerid by Finance Commission (1971 data or 2011 data)

(II) Non representation of states in Finance Commission.

India needs a permanent Finance Commission which would deal with devolution of taxes on yearly basis.

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3. Preamble shows the general purposes behind several provisions in the Constitution, and is a key to the minds of the makers of the Constitution. Explain. Also, comment on the amendability of the Preamble.

उद्देशिका संविधान के अनेक प्रावधानों में निहित सामान्य उद्देश्यों को अभिव्यक्त करती है और संविधान निर्माताओं की सोच को समझने की एक कुंजी है। व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, उद्देशिका की संशोधनीयता पर भी टिप्पणी कीजिए।

"Preamble is a jewel set in our constitution and a key to ~~open~~ minds of makers of constitution".
— Sir Alladi Krishnaswamy Iyer

Importance

(I) It espouses the values enshrined in our constitution - justice, liberty, equality and fraternity

(II) It highlights the characteristics of the nation and polity — democratic, socialist, secular and republic.

(III) It helps to understand various provisions of the constitution when

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there is any ambiguity

(IV) It also highlights who the real source of authority is - 'We, the people of India'

(V) It is like a 'horoscope of the constitution' (KM Munshi)

Amendability of Preamble

(I) In the Berubari Union Case, 1960, SC held that preamble cannot be amended. However it can be used to understand provisions of constitution if there is any ambiguity.

(II) However SC in Kesavananda Bharti Case, 1973 said that Preamble can be amended. The court

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stated that in India, Preamble walks along with the main text of constitution and can be amended to ensure that it is in confirmity with provisions of constitution.

(III) As a result in 1976, 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act leds to addition of terms like socialist, secular etc to the preamble.

So as Granvile Austin said Preamble is very important as it acts as a mirror of constitution

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4. Explain the principle of subsidiarity, its importance and discuss how the 73rd constitutional amendment act tries to achieve it.

समनुषंगिता के सिद्धांत व इसके महत्त्व की व्याख्या कीजिए एवं चर्चा कीजिए कि 73वां संविधान संशोधन अधिनियम इसे प्राप्त करने हेतु किस प्रकार प्रयास करता है।

As per the principle of subsidiarity, the functions which could be performed by the grassroot tier of government should be devolved to it and the rest of the functions should be devolved ~~in~~ to state government. The highest tier should perform only those functions which can't be performed by the first two tiers.

Importance

(I) It ensure effectiveness of functions as the implementing authority is closest to the

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people.

(II) It increases the accountability of government towards the people.

(III) It leads to inclusive development as more resources get devolved towards the sections which are most deprived.

(IV) It increases people's participation in the governance and decreases corruption.

73rd Constitutional Amendment Act

It tries to implement the principle of subsidiarity as it lead to ~~lead to~~ inclusion of Schedule XI in the constitution which contains functions related to

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water services, street lightening, roads, animal husbandary etc. Besides this it gave constitutional status to panchayati raj institutions

However there are systemic flaws like power to levy and collect taxes, and power to perform functions mentioned in Sch 11 depends upon devolution of such powers from state to panchayats. This has not take place.

So as Economic Survey 2016-17 mentioned, ~~the~~ 3Fs i.e Funds, functions and functionaries need to be devolved to local bodies to ensure realisation of principle of subsidiarity

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5. Explaining the importance of an independent judiciary, highlight the relevant Constitutional provisions that safeguard and ensure the independent and impartial functioning of the Supreme Court.

एक स्वतंत्र न्यायपालिका के महत्त्व की व्याख्या करते हुए, उच्चतम न्यायालय की स्वतंत्रता एवं निष्पक्ष कार्य पद्धति को सुरक्षित और सुनिश्चित करने वाले प्रासंगिक संवैधानिक प्रावधानों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Judiciary is one of the two arms of government (other being legislative and executive).

Independant judiciary is important so as to:

(I) keep legislature and executive within their constitutional mandate

(II) ensure rule of law

(III) ensure that the laws formulated by parliament do not violate provisions of constitution (Judicial review)

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Constitutional provisions to ensure independence of judiciary

(I) Manner of appointment provided under Art 124 and Art 217 ensure that executive doesn't dominate the process of selection of judges (2nd Judges Case, 1993 and 3rd Judges Case, 1998)

(II) The salary and services conditions can't be varied to judges' disadvantage during their tenure.

(III) The judges can be removed only if a resolution ~~to~~ is ~~pas~~ passed by both houses of parliament by special majority

(IV) The conduct of judges can't be discussed in parliament except

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during discussion over their impeachment

(V) Power to punish contempt of itself [Art 129 & Art 19(2)]

However along with Judicial independence, judicial accountability is also necessary. For this judiciary recently decided to make proceedings of collegium discussions public along with livestreaming SC proceedings.

"Judicial independence is not something which is owned by judiciary but a commodity held by judiciary in interest of public."

— Lord Woolf

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6. Mention the six freedoms as guaranteed under Article 19 of the Indian Constitution. Also, comment on the way in which the constitution has attempted to strike a balance between individual liberty and interests of society.

भारतीय संविधान के अनुच्छेद 19 के अंतर्गत प्रत्याभूत छः स्वतंत्रताओं का उल्लेख कीजिए। साथ ही, संविधान ने जिस प्रकार से व्यक्तिगत स्वतंत्रता और समाज के हितों के मध्य संतुलन स्थापित करने का प्रयास किया है, उस पर भी टिप्पणी कीजिए।

As a fundamental right,
At 19 provides for 6 rights:

At 19(1)(a): Right to freedom of speech & expression

At 19(1)(b): Right to freedom of peaceful assembly

At 19(1)(c): Right to form associations

At 19(1)(d): Right to freedom of movement

At 19(1)(e): Right to settle anywhere in country

At 19(1)(f): Right to ~~form~~ adopt any profession.

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To strike a balance between individual liberty and interests of society, constitution provides for Art 19(2) which contains reasonable restrictions on Art 19(1) w.r.t ensuring integrity of nation, maintaining public order, defamation, contempt of court, maintaing friendly nations with foreign nations etc. To enable Art 19(2), there are various laws, judgements and provisions like:

(I) Sec 295A of IPC : penalising a person who ~~creates diff~~ uses words to create differences on the basis of caste, religion etc

(II) Sec 124A of IPC : Sedition

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(III) Restriction to certain occupations like child trafficking etc.

(IV) S.C ~~judgement w.r.t~~ Restriction of activities which can only be taken up by government like mining of radioactive minerals, railways etc

~~So the~~ To ensure that constitution doesn't limit individual liberty on pretext of social interests and vice versa, S.C gave various judgements like ~~Puttaswa~~ Shreya Singhal Case, Kanhaiya Kumar case etc.

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7. With examples, discuss the significance of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms in light of costly and time-consuming litigation process in India.

भारत में महंगी और समयसाध्य वाद प्रक्रिया के आलोक में वैकल्पिक विवाद समाधान तंत्र के महत्त्व की उदाहरणों सहित चर्चा कीजिए।

As per economic survey 2018-19, about 3.5 cr cases are pending in India. To decrease judicial pendency and counter costly & time consuming litigation process, alternate dispute resolution (ADR) is very important.

Significance

(I) It helps get rid of lengthy proceeding. Eg: Consumer Protect Act 2019 provides for consumer mediation cells which would provide for mediation and hence amicable resolution of disputes.

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(II) Decreases cost of litigation

Eg: District Legal Service Authority provides for ADR mechanism to ensure amicable resolution of disputes in which poor and needy are involved.

(III) Prevents politicisation of issues Eg: Inter State River Water (Amendment) Bill, 2019 provides for formation of Dispute Resolution Committees (DRCs) which would prevent resolution of inter-state river water disputes without politicising it.

S.C made a similar attempt of arbitration with respect to Babri Masjid Case.

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(IV) India is establishing an International Arbitration Centre in New Delhi which would provide for resolution of commercial disputes without going through lengthy judicial trials.

To ensure success of ADR mechanism in India, it must be ensured that India has a pool of arbitration experts, infrastructure and institutional mechanisms suitable to success of ADR proceedings.

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8. Explain why the Indian Constitution has been argued to have created a 'federation with a centralising tendency'.

ऐसा तर्क क्यों दिया जाता है कि भारतीय संविधान ने 'केंद्रीकरण की प्रवृत्ति वाले एक परिसंघ' को सृजित किया है, व्याख्या कीजिए।

Though federalism is a part of basic structure of constitution, however many constitutional experts believe that Indian federalism has a centralising tendency. (K.C Wheare called it quasi federal)

Reasons for centralising Tendency

(I) Distribution of subjects under Sch 7: Centre List contains 100 items which are most important like defence, communication etc. State list on other hand contains 61 items which are relatively less important like health, water etc.

(II) Post of Governor: The manner

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of appointment and removal of governor makes him/her an agent of government

(III) Centre's power to legislate over states subject in 5 exceptional circumstances like National Emergency, President's rule etc

(IV) ~~Centre~~ Parliament has power to alter boundary of any state under At 3 (Eg: Recent bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir)

(V) Emergency provisions: The federal structure gets replaced by unitary structure when emergency is in place.

(VI) All India Services officers are appointed by Centre and Centre retains ultimate control over them.

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Though India's federal structure is not as strong as that of USA but through separation of powers and functions under Schedule 7, constitution provides a separate identity to the states. Besides this through institutional structures like NITI Aayog, Inter State Council etc, co-operative federalism can be promoted.

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9. The parliamentary control over government and administration in India is more theoretical than practical. Discuss.

भारत में सरकार और प्रशासन पर संसदीय नियंत्रण व्यावहारिक की अपेक्षा सैद्धांतिक अधिक है। चर्चा कीजिए।

In a parliamentary form of government, the parliament escercises control over escecutive through various means. However there are certain issues with respect to parliaments control over escecutive:

(I) Question hour It provides time to hold government accountable. However 23% of this time in 16th Lok Sabha and 53% of this time during corresponding time in R.S got wasted due to disruptions.

(II) Parliamentary sittings have decreased from ~~65~~ 120 to ~~70~~ 125 days/yr during 1950s to 65 to 70 days/yr in 16th L.S.

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(III) Since executive is also a part of legislature and the ruling party forms majority in legislature, parliamentary control over government is weak.

(IV) Reports of parliamentary committees are not properly discussed.

(V) Time spent on budget discussions has decreased from ~~12~~ 140 hours during 1950s to around 40 hours in last decade.

(VI) Whip system also prevents legislators from holding government accountable as per their wishes (Anti defection = X^th Schedule)

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To ensure parliamentary control over government, the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business Rules should be amended to give more power to presiding officer to ensure smooth functioning of house. Besides this, the reports of parliamentary standing committee should be discussed thoroughly.

Like in UK, opposition should be given 20 days/session to set the agenda. Use of Anti-Defection Law should be diluted as per recommendations of 170th report of Law Commission.

Parliament should be a platform for policy & not politics.

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10. Why did the Constituent Assembly replace the original plan to have elected governors in favour of appointment by the President? Also, bring out the arguments that are raised against the current form of appointment of Governors.

संविधान सभा ने निर्वाचित राज्यपाल होने की मूल योजना को राष्ट्रपति द्वारा नियुक्त राज्यपाल के पक्ष में क्यों प्रतिस्थापित कर दिया? साथ ही, राज्यपालों की नियुक्ति के वर्तमान तरीके के विरुद्ध दिए जाने वाले तर्कों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

Art 161 of Indian constitution provides for a post of governor for each state of India.

Constituent Assembly replaced the original plan to have elected governors because:

(I) Direct election would have created two power centres which would have made administration complex.

(II) It would have increased the burden ~~of~~ on exchequer (cost to conduct elections).

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(III) It would have been impractical to have an elected governor without actual power

(IV) As an agent of Centre, the governor would be able to contain fissiparous tendencies in the state.

Issues w.r.t current form of appointments

(I) The constitution merely says that the governor would be appointed by the President. Besides this, he/she remains in office till he/she enjoys pleasure of President. This makes the incumbent an agent of Central of central government

(II) No ~~appointed~~ discussion/role of elected CM of state in case of appointment of Governor, unlike

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Australia (where elected leader of states are asked about their suggestion).

(III) Acts as retirement package for party politicians.

To ensure independence, the recommendations of Punchhi & Sarkaria Commission should be followed as per which the governor should not be a carrer politician

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11. Explaining the concept of judicial activism, discuss why it is important for courts not to take over the functions of the legislature or the executive.

न्यायिक सक्रियता की अवधारणा की व्याख्या करते हुए, चर्चा कीजिए कि न्यायालयों के लिए विधायिका या कार्यपालिका के कार्यों का अतिक्रमण न करना क्यों महत्वपूर्ण है।

Art 142 of constitution gives the judiciary power to issue decrees and orders to ensure complete justice. Under this article, judiciary has tried to fill various voids created by legislature and executive.

Eg:

(I) Vishakha Guidelines, 1997: It took ~~con~~ parliament 16 more years to legislate Protection of Sexual Exploitation of Women at Workplace Act, 2013

(II) Witness Protection Scheme formed by S.C to protect witness from threats and ensure rule of law.

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(I) However it is the important for courts not to indulge in judicial adventurism as:

(I) It would upset the separation of powers as provided by various provisions of constitution

(II) The executive is better equipped as an institution to formulate polices. So instead of passing order in 2016 w.r.t mandatory playing of National Anthem in cinema halls, SC could have asked the executive to amend Cinematograph Rules.

(III) The legislature which is accountable to the people is the best forum to enact laws.

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So judiciary, which is not accountable to the people or legislature, should not intrude into the domain of legislature.

So judicial restraint should be exercised by judiciary. As former supreme court judge, Justice Markandey Katju said, "Judicial activism may be in the interest of people but the judges should be cautious not to cross the line of judicial overreach".

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12. Compare the constitutional position of Rajya Sabha with the Lok Sabha in terms of legislative powers. Also bring out special powers given to Rajya Sabha in this context.

विधायी शक्तियों के संदर्भ में लोकसभा के सापेक्ष राज्य सभा की संवैधानिक स्थिति की तुलना कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संदर्भ में राज्य सभा को दी गई विशेष शक्तियों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

The constitution of India provides for bicameral legislature consiting of Rajya Sabha & Lok Sabha

Comparison in terms of legislative powers

(I) Ordinary bills : Both houses have equal powers. Ordinary bill can originate in either house.

(II) Ordinance : For ordinance to become a law, it has to be approved by both the ~~co~~ houses of parliament.

(III) Constitutional Amendment Bill can be introduced in either house of parliament.

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(IV) Money bill under Art 110 can be introduced only in Lok Sabha. Rajya Sabha cannot amend it. It has only 14 days to give its recommendations.

(V) With reference to financial bills which deals with matters in addition to Art 110 can be introduced only in Lok Sabha but with respect to their passage, both houses have equal powers.

Special powers to Lok Sabha

(I) Rajya Sabha has the power to legislate over an item in State list if it passes a resolution by special majority (Art 249)

(II) Art 312 gives the Rajya Sabha

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power to form a new All-India Services.

So in most of matters other than passage of money bill, Rajya Sabha enjoys almost similar power as Lok Sabha. So as former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee said, "Though Rajya Sabha is a second house, but it is not a secondary house."

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13. Comment upon the distribution of legislative subjects between the Centre and states. Under what circumstances does the Parliament make laws on matters enumerated in the State list?

केंद्र और राज्यों के मध्य विधायी विषयों के वितरण पर टिप्पणी कीजिए। किन परिस्थितियों में संसद राज्य सूची में उल्लिखित विषयों पर विधि बना सकती है?

The distribution of legislative subjects between centre and states is done under Schedule 7 which provides for Central List, State list and Concurrent list.

The Central List has 100 subjects on which centre can legislate like communication, banking etc. State list has 61 subjects on which state can legislate like police, health etc. Concurrent list has 52 subjects on which both centre and states can legislate but in case of conflict, the central law will prevail.

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Circumstances in which Parliament can make laws over state list

(I) National Emergency : When a national emergency is proclamed under Art 352, Centre can legislate over items in state list.

(II) Presidents rule : When Presidents rule ~~in~~ is imposed under Art 356, due to breakdown of constitutional machinery.

(III) With Rajya Sabha passes a resolution by special majority under Art 249

(IV) When two or more states request the centre to legislate over a subject in state list.

Eg: Air Pollution Act, Transplantation

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of Human Organs etc

(V) To give effect to international treaties: Eg: Anti Hijacking Act etc.

These circumstances ensure that Centre is able to legislate on subjects not under its domain to meet exceptional circumstances or to meet provisions/commitments under an international treaty.

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14. Explain the significance of the concept of 'separation of powers' in a democracy. What can be the reasons for India not following the doctrine in the strict sense?

लोकतंत्र में 'शक्तियों के पृथक्करण' की अवधारणा के महत्व को स्पष्ट कीजिए। भारत द्वारा इस सिद्धांत का कठोर अर्थों में अनुपालन न किये जाने के क्या कारण हो सकते हैं?

The 3 arms of government are formed by Legislature, executive and judiciary. 'Separation of Power' entails a water tight compartmentalisation of spheres of all three arms of government to prevent intrusion of an arm of government into other's sphere.
Eg: USA
This is done so as to ensure that there is no centralising tendency in the political sphere and the threat of one arm of government becoming superior.

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Reasons for India not following Separation of powers strictly

(I) India follows the model of parliamentary democracy. As a result, complete separation cannot takes place as executive is a part of legislature.

(II) India follows the concept of checks and balances which are inherent in the constitution.
Eg: Judiciary has the power to strike down an executive action or law made by parliament on the grounds of it being violative of ~~ex~~ constitution.

(III) Similarly legislature keeps a check on executive through various instruments like ~~to~~ question

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hour, financial committees, no confidence motion etc

The system of checks and balances has worked very well for the Indian parliamentary set up. It has ensured no organ of government centralises all power within itself.

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15. Explain the grounds on which a National Emergency can be declared and highlight its effects on Centre-state relations and Fundamental Rights.

उन आधारों की व्याख्या कीजिए जिन पर राष्ट्रीय आपातकाल घोषित किया जा सकता है एवं केंद्र-राज्य संबंधों और मूल अधिकारों पर पड़ने वाले इसके प्रभावों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

The constitution has provided for emergency provisions to enable centre to deal with exceptional circumstances.

National Emergency can be declared under Art 356 on 3 grounds:

(I) War
(II) External Aggression
(III) Armed rebellion (replaced 'internal disturbance' by 44th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1978)

Effects on centre-state relations

(I) Legislative sphere: Centre has legislate on any subject in state list. The law will remain

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in force till 6 months from the date of revocation of emergency

(II) Executive sphere : Centre takes over all executive powers of state.

(III) Financial sphere : Centre can dictate the principles which would guide the state in financial decision making.

Effects on fundamental rights

(I) Under At 358, fundamental rights under At 19 get automatically suspended.

(II) At 359 of constitution states that president can suspend ~~other~~ ~~for~~ the right to move the court for other fundamental rights

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So thought the other fundamental rights are not suspended unlike At 19 but president can suspend the right to move the courts for violation of other fundamental rights

So on proclaimation of National emergency, the federal structure changes to unitary structure as well as imposition of restriction on fundamental rights.

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16. Analyze how the CAG ensures financial accountability of the Executive to the Legislature while working as an independent Constitutional body.

विश्लेषण कीजिए कि एक स्वतंत्र संवैधानिक निकाय के रूप में कार्य करते हुए CAG, विधायिका के प्रति कार्यपालिका की वित्तीय जवाबदेही को किस प्रकार सुनिश्चित करता है?

The constitution provides for the office of CAG under Art 148 of the constitution

CAG ensures the financial accountability of executive to Parliament through following measures:

(I) It conducts 3 audits for Parliament:

→ Audit of appropriation account

→ Audit of financial account

→ Audit account of Public Undertakings

(II) The audit report of appropriation account is studied by Public Accounts Committee. CAG act

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as a friend and guide for the Public Accounts Committee which makes the government accountable to parliament on the floor of the house

(III) It mandatorily conducts compliance audit and financial attest audit. Besides this conducting Performance audit is optional for CAG.

(IV) It also conducts audit of companies substantially financed by public funds.

By submitting these reports to President, who further places them before parliament, CAG ensures financial accountability of government to parliament.

CAG ensures its independence

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through constitutional provisions like removal process being similar to SC judge, salary and allowances cannot be altered etc.

Due to the ~~impo~~ crucial role played by CAG, Dr BR Ambedkar called him the 'most important officer of the country'

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17. Highlight the veto powers of the President of India. How does the veto powers of the Governor differ from that of the President?

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की वीटो शक्तियों पर प्रकाश डालिए। राज्यपाल की वीटो शक्तियां राष्ट्रपति की शक्तियों से किस प्रकार भिन्न हैं?

Being the head of the Indian state and federating units, the constitution provides The President and Governor some veto powers respectively.

Veto powers of President of India

(I) Absolute Veto : When a bill passed by the parliament comes to President for his asset, the President may withhold his asset. Eg: done by then president w.r.t PEPSU Bill

(II) Suspensive Veto : The President

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can return a bill (once) back to parliament for reconsideration (the bill must be ~~a~~ an ordinary bill). However if the parliament passes the bill again, the president will have to give his assent.

(III) Pocket Veto: There is no fixed time in which Indian President is required to give assent to a bill unlike the US President.

Veto powers of Governor differ from that of president that along with above mentioned veto powers, he/she has the power to reserve a bill for consideration of President, which

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has been passed by State Assembly, under At 200 (Eg: Gujrat Control of Organised Crime Bill).

The President may under At 201, give his assent; withhold his asset; or the send the bill back for reconsideration by state assembly

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18. Even though the parliamentary system of government in India is largely based on the British parliamentary model it never became a replica of the British system. Elaborate.

यद्यपि भारत में सरकार की संसदीय प्रणाली मुख्य रूप से ब्रिटिश संसदीय मॉडल पर आधारित है तथापि यह कभी भी ब्रिटिश प्रणाली की प्रतिकृति नहीं बनी। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

India borrowed the parliamentary system of government from Britain. Though Indian system is largely based on British system but there are certain differences like:

(I) Parliamentary sovereignty:
In Britain the parliament is sovereign. Blackstone said, "English parliament can do anything except declare a man as a woman & vice versa." However the parliament in India is not sovereign. It rather operates in checks and balances. Through judicial review, judiciary can strike a law

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made by parliament if it is unconstitutional

(II) The King can do no wrong:
This is the philosophy behind the British model. In Britain, every minister has to countersign a document relating to his/her ministry. In case of any shortfall, it would be the minister ~~too~~ who would be responsible & not the king. No such procedure is followed in India

(III) In Britain, the Prime Minister must be mandatorily from lower house (House of Commons). In India PM can be member of either house, Rajya Sabha (Manmohan Singh) or Lok Sabha (Narendra Modi)

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(iv) In India, a non member can be appointed as a minister, but he must get elected in either house in 6 months. There is no such procedure in Britain.

So though Indian model has a lot of similarities with British model but Indian model has also adopted different procedures/systems to suit India's interests.

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19. A number of judicial pronouncements and constitutional amendments have altered the balance between Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of Sate Policy since the commencement of the constitution. Analyse.

संविधान के लागू होने के पश्चात से अनेक न्यायिक निर्णयों और संविधान संशोधनों ने मूल अधिकारों और राज्य की नीति के निदेशक तत्वों के मध्य के संतुलन को परिवर्तित कर दिया है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The aim of Fundamental rights under Part III of constitution is to usher in political democracy, whereas the aim of Directive Principles (→ DPSPs) of State Policy under Part IV is to bring in social & economic democracy.

However there has been a conflict between Fundamental Rights & DPSPs explained below:

(I) Shankari Prasad Case, 1951 : SC held that parliament can't violate fundamental rights to give effect to DPSPs. However parliament can do so by amending

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the Constitution

(II) Golaknath Case, 1967 : SC said fundamental rights are immutable and Parliament can't amend fundamental rights to give effect DPSPs.

(III) 24th Constitutional amendment act, 1971 gave parliament right to amend constitution

(IV) 25th Constitutional amendment act, 1971 inserted At 31C which gave primacy to At 39(b) & At 39(c) over At 14 & At 19. This was upheld by Supreme Court in Kesavananda Bharti Case, 1973

(V) By 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976, Parliament gave primacy to all DPSPs over At 14 & 19

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(VI) In Minerva Mills Case, 1980, SC struck down the previous portion of amendment & restored the situation as after 25th constitutional amendment, 1971

So as SC said in Minerva Mills Case, constitution is founded on bedrock of balance between fundamental rights & DPSP. They should go ~~the~~ together & not come in conflict with one another.

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20. Highlight the powers and functions of the Election Commission of India (ECI). Also, discuss the issues regarding the independence and impartiality of the ECI.

भारत के निर्वाचन आयोग (ECI) की शक्तियों और कार्यों पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, ECI की स्वतंत्रता और निष्पक्षता से संबंधित मुद्दों की चर्चा कीजिए।

Art 324 of constitution gives ECI the power of direction, control & superintendence over elections of parliament, state legislature, president & vice President

[Powers and Functions]

(I) In Mohinder Singh Gill case, SC said ECI enjoys vast powers under Art 324

(II) ECI has power to register a political party under Sec 29 of Resprusentation of People Act, 1951.

(III) It decides on disputes relating to allotment of election symbols

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after split of party. (Eg: AIADMK)

(IV) It updates electoral ~~roles~~ rolls before every election.

(V) Advises the president / governor with respect to disqualition cases with respect to office of profit.

Issues regarding independence & impartiality

(I) Allegations of bias against ECI w.r.t violation of Model Code of Conduct by MPs of ruling party

(II) Constitutional protection equivalent to that given to CEC is not given to the 2 ECs. This compromises the independence of 2 ECs

(III) ECIs dependence on central government for paramilitary forces

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for conduct of elections

(IV) ECI doesn't have secretariat for itself and can't frame its own recruitment rules & shortlist and appoint officers on its own.

To ensure independence and impartiality, the 255th report of Law Commission recommended creation of a panel consisting of PM, Leader of Opposition and CJI to appoint the election commissioners

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INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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18	15	
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20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. Discuss the need and challenges of digitization of land records in India. **(150 words) 10**

भारत में भू-अभिलेखों के डिजिटलीकरण की आवश्यकता और चुनौतियों की विवेचना कीजिए।

For effecient development and working of land markets, digitising land records is very important. It is needed because:

Need
- For growth is real estate sector, conclusive land titles is very important
- To promote contract farming, digitisation of land records is necessary
- To decrease land litigation, collating and digitising land records is required.
- To increase property tax and other revenue which is to be collected by local bodies, conclusive land titles is a necessity.
- Digitisation of land records ⇒ Confirmity of land titles ⇒ Farmers would be able to take loan from banks by mortgaging their land.

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However there are certain challenges too:

1. Land titles in India are presumptive. So to digitise land records various administrative changes are needed
2. Land records consist of survey maps, transaction details (sale deeds) and ownership records which are maintained by different departments.
3. Historically, land records were maintained manually, so difficult to digitise.

After launch of Digital India Land Record Management, digitisation of land records is taking place at a rapid pace and government is moving towards Conclusive Titling system

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2. Give an account of the benefits that can accrue from the One Nation One Ration Card scheme. In this context, also discuss the challenges that need to be addressed for the scheme to become a success. **(150 words) 10**
एक राष्ट्र एक राशन कार्ड योजना से प्राप्त हो सकने वाले लाभों का विवरण दीजिए। इस संदर्भ में, इस योजना के सफल होने के लिए जिन चुनौतियों का समाधान किए जाने की आवश्यकता है, उनकी भी विवेचना कीजिए।

Recently, the government came up with One Nation One Ration Card scheme under which a beneficiary would be able to get subsidised grains of his/her share in any state

Benefits of scheme

(I) It would immensely benefit the migrant workers who were earlier unable to get subsidised grains because of their migratory status.

(II) By linking with PDS, leakages would decrease

(III) It would leave a data trail and would provide information about the extent of migration in India

(IV) It would facilitate productive workers

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to travel to different regions to get better employment.

Challenges associated with scheme

(I) Technology failure as in case of Jharkhand etc would impede the beneficiaries to avail the benefit

(II) As per newspaper reports, various middlemen were misguiding migrant people to get the new ration card, in lieu of a charge.

(III) The scheme doesn't address exclusion and inclusion errors.

(IV) By linking to Aadhaar, many analysts believe, a certain part of deprived section gets left out of scheme.

The scheme is a step in right direction. State governments should ensure that technology act as a facilitator & doesn't limit access to the scheme.

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3. Identify the challenges faced by the railways in India. In this context, also discuss the ways in which the Railways can be transformed into an efficient public service provider as well as commercially viable entity.

(150 words) 10

भारत में रेलवे के समक्ष व्याप्त चुनौतियों की पहचान कीजिए। इस संदर्भ में, उन तरीकों की भी विवेचना कीजिए जिनके माध्यम से रेलवे को एक कुशल सार्वजनिक सेवा प्रदाता के साथ-साथ वाणिज्यिक रूप से व्यवहार्य निकाय के रूप में रूपांतरित किया जा सकता है।

Indian Railways has the fourth largest network in the world with route length of about 70,000 Km.

However it faces certain challenges:

Challenges
- → Over utilisation: More than 60% routes working at over 100% utilization rate.
- → Falling operating ratio (OR) OR in 2017-18 was 98.4% (worst ever since independence)
- → Decreasing share in modal mix w.r.t freight transport
  - 1950-51 = 85%
  - 2016-17 = 33%
- → Service delivery: dirty station, delay in train arrival and departure
- → Gap in investment: Lack of private participation
- → Safety: 75 accidents in 2017-18

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Following are ways to transform Indian railways:

1. Complete Dedicated Freight Corridor (3360Km) by Dec 2021: will increase railways share in freight from 33% to 45% and increase speed of goods train from 24Km/hr to 75Km/hr
2. Increase participation of private sector in manufacture and maintanence of wagons and rolling stocks
3. Improving working of terminal stations which contribute 80% load
4. Advance signalling system with automatic train protection system should get installed by end of 2020.
5. Modernise railway stations to increase non-fare revenue

Rail Development Authority as announced in Feb 2018 should be formed at the earliest.

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4. Agriculture marketing is a key driver of the agriculture sector in present times. In this context, discuss the role that the Integrated Scheme for Agriculture Marketing can play in strengthening agriculture marketing in India. **(150 words) 10**

वर्तमान समय में कृषि विपणन, कृषि क्षेत्रक का एक प्रमुख चालक है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में कृषि विपणन के सुदृढ़ीकरण में 'कृषि विपणन के लिए एकीकृत योजना' द्वारा निभाई जा सकने वाली भूमिका की विवेचना कीजिए।

According to Ashok Dalwai Committee, due to flaws in agricultural marketing, farmers get only 15%-40% of the market price. So improving agricultural marketing is very important as it leads to

- Improved price discovery
- Improved access to market for farmers
- will signal farmers about which crop should be sown.
- decrease number of intermediaries
- improved storage and warehousing facilities

To ensure this, Integrated scheme for agricultural marketing has been launched. It would lead to:

① Integration of value chain from

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farmer to food processing company to retailer

(II) Help farmer get renumerative price for his produce (Doubling Farmer Income by 2022)

(III) Improve storage infrastructure — cold storage, reefer vans etc, by promoting private sector investment

(IV) It would promote rural development as private sector would invest in food processing infrastructure in rural areas.

The states have a key role to play as should make necessary modifications in APMC Acts to ensure establishment of an integrated value chain.

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5. Highlighting the need for Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM) in India, discuss the constraints in implementing PIM. **(150 words) 10**
भारत में सहभागी सिंचाई प्रबंधन (PIM) की आवश्यकता को रेखांकित करते हुए, PIM के कार्यान्वयन में आने वाली बाधाओं की विवेचना कीजिए।

India is a water stressed nation with per capita water availability of 1450 m^3/yr. As a result participatory irrigation management (PIM) is the need of the hour as agricultural sector consumes 85% of water in India

Need of PIM
- It would lead to better management of groundwater aquifer
- PIM would make local people stakeholders in water management. This would promote rainwater harvesting
- It would improve water use effecency as community participation would lead to upcoming of innovative solutions
- will enhance social capital

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and would indirectly promote FPOs and co-operative farming.

However there are certain Constraints in implementing PIM:

(I) Local bodies do not have sufficient resources to manage an aquifer

(II) ~~Technical~~ Technical experts which could guide PIM at local level are not present in rural areas

(III) PIM might result in domination of large farmers over small and marginal farmers.

(IV) State governments are reluctant to follow this model.

Atal Bhujal Yojna - a scheme in 7 states with World Bank assistance is the step in right direction.

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6. Despite being cost effective and efficient, why does water transport continue to be an underutilized mode of freight transport in India? What steps have been taken by the government in this regard? **(150 words) 10**

लागत प्रभावी और कुशल होने के बावजूद, भारत में जल परिवहन माल ढुलाई का अल्प प्रयुक्त साधन क्यों बना हुआ है? इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं?

Despite cost of water transport being ₹ 0.3 / Km-Tn as compared to road transport of ₹ 3 / Km-Tn, water transport contributes just 6.5% in total freight transport in India.

Reasons for this are:

Reasons
- Inadequate draft depth of rivers and canals decreases utility of inland waterways
- Weak connectivity with road and rail to water terminal stations
- ~~Terminal~~ Load handling at terminals is poor and costly
- Lack of feeder canals that provide connectivity.
- Capital to promote infrastructure of water transport is costly.

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Steps taken by government to improve contribution of water transport

① SAGAR MALA project would improve port connectivity and development

② 106 new National Waterways got announced in addition to existing 5 NWs.

③ 25% fund out of Central Road Fund would be used for development of inland waterways

④ 34 multimodal logistics parks that got announced in 2017 will give a boost to water transport in India.

By giving capital subsidy to development of water transport infrastructure, government can give a boost to this sector.

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7. Highlight the factors that constrain the growth of logistics sector in India. What can be done to remove these constraints? **(150 words) 10**
भारत में लॉजिस्टिक्स क्षेत्र के विकास को बाधित करने वाले कारकों को रेखांकित कीजिए। इन बाधाओं को दूर करने के लिए क्या किया जा सकता है?

Logistics sector ~~caters~~ consists of services that lead to transfer of goods from manufacturer to consumer. There are certain factors that limit growth of this sector

- High cost : Logistics contribute 14% to India's GDP (US = 9%)
- Ineffecient multimodal mix. Road transport being most expensive contributes 56% in ~~bres~~ freight transport in India
- Logistics sector consists of 4 components transport, warehousing, freight forwarding and value addition services. All are regulated by different regulators.
- Warehousing sector hardly contributes to value addition. In most of cases still manual loading unloading takes place

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Following steps should be taken to remove these constraints:

① Dedicated Freigh Corridor and port development under Sagarmala should be expedited.

② 34 Multimodal Logistics Parks announced in 2017 should get completed before 2022-23.

③ Trans shipment ports at Vizhingham and Ennore should be complement at earliest

④ Integration across different modes using common IT platform would help save time.

Government's decision to give infrastructure status to logistics sector would help promote growth of this sector.

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8. The recent Union Budget has proposed corporatizing at least one major port. In this context, highlight the benefits of a corporatized port, as compared to ports run by public authorities. **(150 words) 10**

हाल ही के केंद्रीय बजट में कम से कम एक प्रमुख पत्तन के निगमीकरण का प्रस्ताव रखा गया है। इस संदर्भ में, सार्वजनिक प्राधिकरणों द्वारा संचालित पत्तनों की तुलना में, निगमीकृत पत्तन के लाभों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

As per NITI Aayog - Strategy for New India @ 75, port capacity in India is 2.1 bn Tn which needs to be upgraded to 2.5 bn Tn by 2022-23. To improve effecuency of port sector, government recently announced corporatising atleast one major port.

Benefits of a corporatised port over ports run by public ~~co~~ authorities

① Improvement in terminal effecuency by improving document clearance time etc (For imports, document clearance time in India in 2019 was 20 hours as compared to 9 hours in China)

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② Corporatising would increase involvement of private sector in dredging operations - would help increase draft depth to 18 meters.

③ Corporatising would help attract investment that would help in port modernisation and development

④ Corporatisation would help Indian port to install transshipment terminals like Chennai (TCCT) terminal which would help decrease logistics cost.

⑤ Corporatisation would help improve connectivity by better co-operation with Indian railways to get access to hinterland.

Corporatisation of ports would decrease logistics cost in long run which would give a boost to Indian exports.

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9. Bring out the rationale behind government promoting smart metering in India. Mention some of the steps that have been taken by the government in this regard. **(150 words) 10**

भारत में सरकार द्वारा स्मार्ट मीटरिंग को बढ़ावा देने के पीछे निहित तर्क को स्पष्ट कीजिए। इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कुछ कदमों का उल्लेख कीजिए।

NITI Aayog in its 3 Year Action Agenda emphasised on need of Smart Metering to make the power sector of India robust.

Rationale behind promoting smart metering in India

① It would decrease ATSC (Aggregate Technical & Commercial) Losses in India which presently stand at 21.5%.

② It would promote retail producers of electricity to feed power into the system.

③ It would improve recovery for DISCOMs. Improvement of health of DISCOMs would improve Plant Load Factor of thermal power plants. ↳ Presently 61%.

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④ It would also promote production of renewable energy like solar energy etc, which in excess ~~we~~ could be bought by DISCOMS.

Steps taken by government in this regard

① The government is ~~compin~~ coming up with PPP models like IBDF Model (Input Based Distribution Franchise) to promote Smart Metering.

② Through incentives under UDAY scheme, central government is promoting smart metering.

③ Through IPDS (Integrated Power Development Scheme), government is targetting to decrease AT&C losses through smart metering.

Hence smart metering would make Indian power sector more effective in distribution of energy.

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10. Discuss why land pooling is being seen as an effective and dependable tool that can replace the traditional land acquisition mechanism.

(150 words) 10

चर्चा कीजिए कि क्यों लैंड पूलिंग को पारंपरिक भूमि अधिग्रहण तंत्र को प्रतिस्थापित कर सकने वाले एक प्रभावी और विश्वसनीय साधन के रूप में देखा जा रहा है।

Land pooling refers to aggregating different land units for specific purposes, without transfering ownership, for a certain period of time.

It is an effective tool that can replace traditional land aquisition mechanism as:

① The security of land title is ensured, so the person who owns the land doesn't loose control over his/her land

② Meets developmental needs while ensuring ownership is not transferred.

③ Diverts land from unproductive to productive purposes.

④ The original owner of land gets income in exchange of use of his land for development needs

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⑤ It decreases instances of litigation w.r.t compensation for land aquisition.

To ensure success of land pooling, tenancy laws of states needs to be altered. Model Land Leasing Act, 2016 is a set up right direction. States should alter their lands as per provision of this act which promotes land pooling.

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11. Examine the need of a new integrated energy policy to achieve the goal of energy self-sufficiency without compromising the ecology of the country. **(250 words) 15**

देश की पारिस्थितिकी से समझौता किए बिना ऊर्जा आत्मनिर्भरता का लक्ष्य प्राप्त करने हेतु एक नई एकीकृत ऊर्जा नीति की आवश्यकता का परीक्षण कीजिए।

The peak load deficit in 2018-19 stood at 0.8%. Out of total generating capacity (2/3rd) 64% is contributed by thermal power plants which are very polluting.

So ensure the goal of energy sufficiency and adhering to Paris summit commitments, India needs a new integrated energy policy. It would focus on:

(1) Improving the plant load factor of thermal power plants as it would improve capacity utilisation. (In 2017, there was energy deficit, despite installed capacity being 330 GW and peak demand = 165 GW)

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(2) It would help better integration of renewable energy sources like solar energy, wind energy etc into the energy misc, ~~do~~ thus decreasing carbon footprint.

(3) By end of 2018, renewable energy contributed 75 GW in total capacity. The integrated energy policy through proper incentives would help to scale it to 175 GW by 2022.

(4) The new energy policy would help improve health of discoms through innovative models involving private participation which would

- Improve distribution infrastructure
- Increase energy demand from generating stations,

thus achieving goal of energy self

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sufficiency.

(5) It would set the pathway to help decrease contribution of polluting sources of energy and increase contribution of renewable sources which presently contribute just 21% of generation capacity (as compared to greater than 65% in case of Canada & Brasil)

The new integrated energy policy would help India meet its growing energy demand which is expected to triple by 2040 while ensuring that large proportion of increasing capacity is met by renewables.

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12. The cropping pattern in India is highly skewed towards crops that are water-intensive. In this context, discuss the need to shift the focus from land productivity to irrigation water productivity. **(250 words) 15**

भारत में शस्य प्रारूप जल-गहन फसलों की ओर अत्यधिक झुका हुआ है। इस संदर्भ में, भू उत्पादकता से सिंचाई जल उत्पादकता पर ध्यान-केंद्रण की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Cropping pattern in India being skewed towards water intensive crops can be judged from following

- Growing of paddy in water scarce regions of Punjab, Haryana and western UP
- Sugarcane cultivation in drought hit Marathwada region of Maharashtra

2 prominent reasons for this are

① MSP regime of India

② Presence of agricultural marketing system that promotes growth of water intensive crops.

However there is an urgent need to shift from land production to irrigation water productivity because

(I) Growing number of black spots

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in Punjab and Haryana due to drastic fall in water table due to growing of water intensive crops

(II) Salt salinisation: Due to excess irrigation, soil in Punjab and Haryana has become saline.

(III) It would lead to better land utilisation. Eg: as per NABARD, rice productivity in Punjab is 0.3 Kg / m^3 of water where in Jharkhand, it is 0.7 Kg/m^3

(IV) It would make agriculture sustainable. The land in Punjab, Haryana, western UP is suitable for growing crops like maize, soyabean, basmati etc which have a large export potential.

(V) It would help counter the prevailing water stress. (Per capita water availability in India is merely 1450 m^3/yr)

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(vi) As stated by M.S Swaminathan, it would help usher in Evergreen revolution as it would promote soil health, ecology and farmer.

To promote this shift, role of government is very important as it would have to alter its MSP regime, procurement matter, incentivise production of dry crops like mange etc and provide extension support to farmers.

PM-ASHA is a step in right direction

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13. While animal husbandry plays a significant role in food security, supplementing family incomes and generating gainful employment in the rural sector, it is beset with a number of challenges. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

यद्यपि पशुपालन खाद्य सुरक्षा, पारिवारिक आय के अनुपूरण और ग्रामीण क्षेत्र में लाभकारी रोजगार सृजित करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है, तथापि यह कई चुनौतियों से ग्रसित है। चर्चा कीजिए।

As per the Livestock Census, 2019, India has the largest population of livestock at 53.5 crore. As a result animal husbandary plays significant role in India.

- Food security: Eg India has about 12.5 cr milch animals which produce 17.5 cr Tn of milk
- Supplement Family incomes as animal husbandary contributes a significant share in total agricultural income
- Generate gainful employment - about 15 crore farmers are employed in animal husbandary

However animal husbandary faces

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a number of challenges:

(I) Productivity: Milk production per animal in case of cattle and buffalo in India is low as compared to other nations.

(II) Shortage of fodder – expected to be around 56% by 2025.

(III) Vetrinary doctors in India are less due to which livestock faces various diseases

(IV) Quality issues due to domination of unorganised sector (to the time of 85%) in livestock.

(V) Export market: Countries like South Korea, Thailand etc character India as ~~ho~~ as ridden with Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), besides this various quality restrictions are

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also placed on India's diary industry.

(vi) Increasing pressure on India to open its diary sector in various regional trade negotiations (RCEP), FTAs etc.

To improve this sector, government has taken various initiatives like GOKUL mission (improving breed, herd composition), National Bovine mission etc.

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14. Highlighting the problems faced by the food processing sector in India, elaborate on the approach adopted by the government under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana to address the same. **(250 words) 15**

भारत में खाद्य प्रसंस्करण क्षेत्रक द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली समस्याओं पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, उन्हें दूर करने के लिए प्रधानमंत्री किसान संपदा योजना के अंतर्गत सरकार द्वारा अपनाए गए दृष्टिकोण का सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

Food Processing (FP) Sector is ~~the~~ a sunrise sector and is very important for food security and improving farm income. However it faces certain problems:

Problems
- Institutional issues: APMCs restrict access of FP companies to farmers
- Infrastructural issues: access to rural areas through roads, railways is weak + lack of ~~reff~~ reefer vans / refrigrated vans to the tune of 85% of requirement
- Issues with respect to land clearances by state governments to establish FP industries

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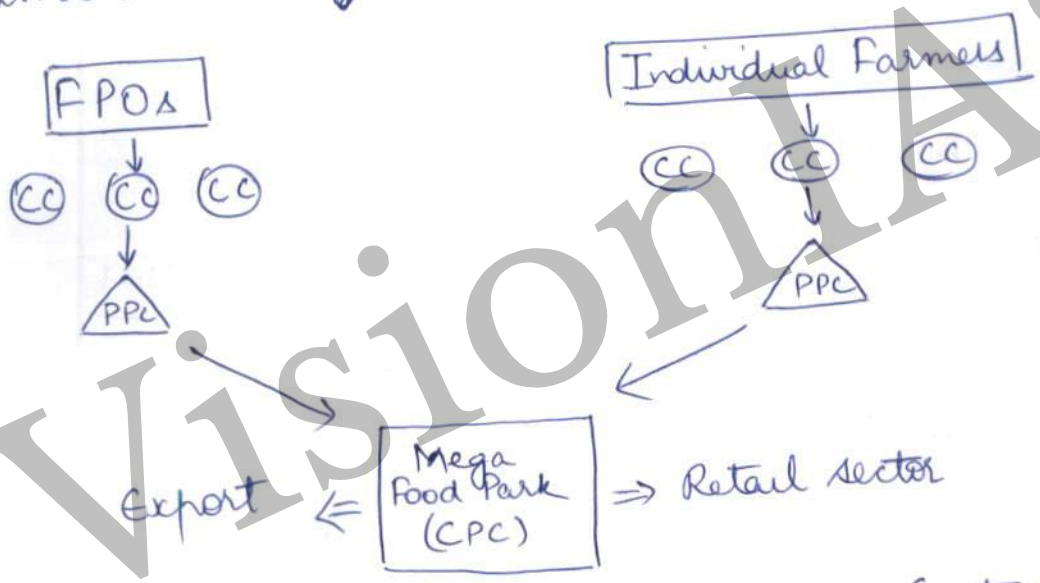
→ Issue with respect to access to capital to set up processing units

→ Restrictions on stockholding under Essential Commodities ~~etc~~ Act

To counter these issues, government launched PM SAMPADA Yojna. Approach under this scheme



① It would set up Collection Centres (CC) and Primary Processing ~~Sector~~ Centres (PPC) as spokes and Central Processing Centre (CPC) as hub.

② It would incentivise construction of warehousing and cold storage facilities and transport

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③ It would promote setting up Quality testing labs, grading facilities, pre cooling facilities, packing housing, irradiation facilities etc.

④ It would also involve programme to skill workers to contribute in food processing industry.

So SAMPADA scheme aims to create an integrated value chain that would connect farmers, processors and retailers along with strengthening backward and forward linkages.

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15. The government should prioritize capital investments over subsidies to improve the economic situation of farmers. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**
सरकार को किसानों की आर्थिक स्थिति में सुधार करने के लिए सब्सिडी की तुलना में पूंजी निवेश को प्राथमिकता देनी चाहिए। चर्चा कीजिए।

The government provides various subsidies to farmers in form of fertilizer subsidy, capital subsidy, fuel subsidy etc (besides loan waivers) However such subsidies do not address structural problems of Indian agriculture. Solving these structural problems requires capital ~~sub~~ investment. This could be understood by:

(1) Irrigation: Of the total cropped area, only 35% area is irrigated. According to estimates had loan waiver amount which amounded to ₹3 lakh crore cummulatively in 2016-17 been invested in irrigation, area under irrigation would have increased to 75%.

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② Marketing infrastructure : Investment in warehousing facilities, cold storage, refer vans, quality labs, packaging infrastructure, irradiation facilities etc at APMCs would help farmers get much better price for their produce

③ Investment in R&D would help increase quality of seeds (eg introducing nitrogen use efficiency genes in seeds would decrease requirement of fertilizers and decrease input cost)

④ Investment in agricultural extension services + Agri Clinics + Kisan Vikaas Kendras etc would improve farm productivity and bridge information gap.

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⑤ Investing to improve processing facilities in rural areas under SAMPADA scheme would integrate farmers in value chain and would enable him to reap better price for food.

⑥ Investment would help improve livestock sector also. Eg GOKUL Mission

So capital investment in agriculture unlike subsidies which have short term impact, would help achieve the goal of doubling farmer income by 2022.

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16. The efficacy of other agricultural inputs in enhancing agricultural production is largely determined by the quality of seed. In this context, what are the concerns faced by farmers in India? Also, identify the interventions required to address these concerns. **(250 words) 15**

कृषि उत्पादन बढ़ाने में अन्य कृषि आदानों की प्रभावकारिता मुख्य रूप से बीज की गुणवत्ता से निर्धारित होती है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में किसानों को किन चिंताओं का सामना करना पड़ रहा है? साथ ही, इन चिंताओं को दूर करने के लिए आवश्यक हस्तक्षेपों की पहचान कीजिए।

It was the High Yielding Varity (HYV) seeds that ushered in green revolution in India. So quality seeds is one of the most important factors that ~~determe~~ determines agricultural produce.

However farmers of India face certain concerns with respect to quality of seeds used:

(1) Seed Replacement rate is very less. Most of the farmer are using farm saved seeds, due to high price of breeder seeds.

(2) Domination of MNCs like Monsanto (Bt Cotton) which has increased the

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price of seeds

③ Decreasing efficacy of seeds : Eg: pest attack on cotton in Punjab (grown using Bt Cotton seeds)

④ Less investment in R&D to improve seed quality : Eg: improving seeds through introducing genes that increase nitrogen use efficiency.

⑤ Ban by government on certain seeds like GM Mustard, HT Cotton etc.

⑥ Violation of Intellectual property rights : Eg: Farmers in Maharashtra sued by a seed company.

Following interventions are required to address these concerns:

① Increasing investment in R&D : Eg PAU's rice variety that uses less water.

② ~~Prod~~ Providing seeds at subsidised

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rates to improve seed replacement rate.

③ Providing support to seed industries to decrease monopoly of MNCs

④ Relooking into the decision to stop introduction of GM seeds for food crops.

By improving the quality of seeds and providing access to quality seeds, farm productivity in India would improve.

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17. Throwing some light on the Indian agricultural trade scenario, give an account of both supply-side and demand-side issues hampering India's agricultural export competitiveness. **(250 words) 15**

भारतीय कृषि व्यापार परिदृश्य पर संक्षिप्त रूप से प्रकाश डालते हुए, भारत की कृषि निर्यात प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता को बाधित करने वाले आपूर्ति-पक्ष और मांग-पक्ष संबंधी मुद्दों का विवरण प्रस्तुत कीजिए।

Agricultural trade in India is largely regulated because of issue of food security and large section (49%) of population dependant on it for livelihood

Indian Agricultural trade scenario

1. Agricultural trade largely takes place through APMCs which are marked by inefficiencies and cartelization of traders
2. Private trade in agriculture is very less because government buys 75% of marketable surplus
3. Export of agricultural commodities take place to the tune of $30 bn (which is about 2% of world's agricul-

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tural trade)

India's export competitiveness is hampered because of:

① Supply Side Issues

- Cost of production in India is high because of small land holdings and less mechanisations
- Large proportion of surplus being taken up by government
- Restrictions on selling produce to private traders directly
- High levies like Mandi Fee, ~~cons~~ warehousing levies etc being charged in APMCs
- Non development of FPOs
- Nascent food processing sector.

② Demand side issues

- Stockholding limits under Essential Commodities Act (ECA)

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- Lack of capital to set up food processing units in rural areas
- Issue in land clearances for food processing units by states
- Export limits on agricultural commodities by government along with Minimum Export Price.

The government came up with Export Policy for Agriculture in 2018 which aims to double exports from $30 bn in 2017-18 to $60 bn by 2022-23 by improving policy environment and supporting infrastructure development.

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18. National Infrastructure Pipeline is an ambitious step in the direction of achieving multiple development goals. In this context, discuss its features and significance. **(250 words) 15**

राष्ट्रीय अवसंरचना पाइपलाइन विविध विकास लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने की दिशा में एक महत्वाकांक्षी कदम है। इस संदर्भ में, इसकी विशेषताओं और महत्व की विवेचना कीजिए।

National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) sets the roadmap for investment in infrastructure for period from FY2020 to FY2025

Features of NIP

① A total of ₹102 lakh crore would be spent on infrastructure in this period.

② Both central and state government would contribute 39% each with private sector contribution at 22%.

③ Investment in Energy sector = 24%, Road sector = 19%, Housing = 16%, Railway = 13%. These four make up 70% of total investment.

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④ The government will review progress periodically and can alter the projects as per requirement and priority.

Significance of NIP

① It would make the economy more competitive (Improve rank in WEF's Global Competitiveness Index)

② Decrease logistics cost as a percentage of GDP (presently 14%, US = 9%)

③ Would improve ease of living. Eg - large investment in housing sector.

④ It would increase Gross Fixed Capital formation (GFCF) as a percentage of GDP which stands at mere 28.5% (in 2017-18)

⑤ It would create employment in

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the economy.

⑥ It would give a boost to farm sector by improving overall transportation and storage infrastructure

To ensure success of NIP, improving regulatory environment w.r.t land, environmental clearances etc is very important. Besides this, improving banking sector along with developing bond market is important to meet the investment needs.

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19. Increasing the supply of urban land should be a priority area if India is to achieve faster urbanization. Discuss. Also, suggest some measures in this regard. **(250 words) 15**

यदि भारत को अपेक्षाकृत तीव्र शहरीकरण प्राप्त करना है तो शहरी भूमि की आपूर्ति बढ़ाना प्राथमिकता वाला क्षेत्र होना चाहिए। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में कुछ उपायों का भी सुझाव दीजिए।

Urban areas are considered ~~the~~ the engines of growth in an ~~ecomy~~ economy. In India they contribute about 70% of GDP.

To acheive faster urbanisation, increasing supply of urban land should be priority as:

(I) Housing needs: More and more people are moving towards urban areas. So providing land for housing is very important (PM Awaas Yojna - Target of building 1.2 cr houses in urban areas)

(II) Land for industrial development: Supply of land to ~~ens~~ set up industrial clusters which would boost economy.

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(III) Transportation requirement would need land for building roads, railway tracks, enlarging airports etc.

(IV) Power projects would require land for setting up generating infrastructure and transmission network

(V) Land for managing waste resources

Measures to increase supply of urban lands

(I) Digitisation of land records would help improve land utilisation in urban areas.

(II) Setting up Land Development Banks which would divert land from unproductive to productive proposes.

(III) Vertical land usage should be promoted through better engineering skills.

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(IV) Land Data Repository should be created at state level to improve land provising using GPS.

(V) Land Aqusition Act should be streamlined to promote land aqusition for infrastructure projects while simultaneously ~~improving~~ ensuring rehabilitation.

Land is under state list. So states should take steps and prepare policy for urban land use which would help meet the needs of growing urbanisation.

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20. Bring out the need for organizing farmers into structures like producer organizations. Also, identify the challenges that need to be addressed for such initiatives to achieve their desired objectives. **(250 words) 15**

उत्पादक संगठनों जैसी संरचनाओं में किसानों को संगठित करने की आवश्यकता को रेखांकित कीजिए। साथ ही, ऐसी पहलों के वांछित उद्देश्यों को प्राप्त करने के लिए उन चुनौतियों की पहचान कीजिए जिन्हें दूर किए जाने की आवश्यकता है।

Farmer Producer Organisations are companies in which farmers would aggregate to reap the benefits of economies of scale.

Need of organising farmers into FPOs

① It would improve bargaining power of farmers w.r.t
↳ Buying inputs
↳ Selling produce

② It would enable farmers get collective access to various information services, extension services, knowledge about new technologies etc

③ FPOs can indulge into value addition activities like by setting up processing facilities etc

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④ Food processing companies would find it easier to trade with FPOs as it would decrease their operational cost to transact with separate farmers

⑤ FPOs get easier access to credit

⑥ FPOs get access to management expertise through technical experts

[Challenges w.r.t FPOs]

① Due to unconnected land holdings, ~~farmers~~ banks usually do not lend to FPOs

② Technical experts are not present in rural areas.

③ SFAC | Small Farmers Agri Business Consortium provides guarantee to financial institutions for FPOs only if they have > 500 members

④ FPOs which are present in unconnected / poorly connected rural areas face challenges in marketing

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their produce.

⑤ Most of farmers in FPOs are poor (Small & Marginal), so even collectively, they are unable to contribute much, so as to pull food processing units towards them.

The government is taking a lot of steps to promote FPOs like SAMPADA Yojna, TOPs Scheme (Tomato, Onion, Potato). In Budget 2018-19, government have 5 yr tax holiday to FPOs with turnover less than ₹100 Cr.

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1408)

Name of Candidate	SIDAQ SINGH		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENG	Registration Number	160702
Center		Date	12/08/2020

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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3	10	
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10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH**
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. Rural health care in India faces significant challenges. Elaborate. What can be done to deal with these challenges? (150 words) 10

Rural health care in India faces the triple challenge of availability, affordability and accessibility. COVID 19 has highlighted the cost of gaps in rural health care.

Significant challenges in rural health care

Significant challenges

- Physical infrastructure: Only 9 hospital beds per 10,000 population available in India (Japan = 21/10,000). KPMG Survey, 2016, 75% hospitals are present in urban areas.
- Human resource: Doctor-population ratio in India = 1:1500 (WHO recommendation = 1:1000). KPMG Survey, 80% of doctors catering ~~in~~ to urban population
- Health spending (Public expenditure) = 1.4% of GDP (National Health Policy (NHP), 2017 recommended 2.5% of GDP

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→ High Out of pocket expenditure = 60%
→ Lack of preventive healthcare = diagnostic services, clean drinking water, sanitation etc

Steps Needed

(I) Increase public health spending to 2.5% of GDP by 2022

(II) NHP, 2017 recommended 2/3rd of public expenditure should be on Primary Health Centres (PHCs). So PHCs in rural areas should be increased.

(III) Preventive healthcare should be improved. PHCs should offer diagnostic services. Water and sanitation facility should improve in rural areas.

Primary health care (which acts as gatekeeper) and preventive health care hold the key to improve rural healthcare.

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2. Provide a critical evaluation of the impact of globalization on the position of women in India. (150 words) 10

Globalisation refers to increasing interdependence, interconnectedness and integration of societies and economies to an extent that an event in one part of globe impacts the other.

Globalisation has impacted position of women in India both, positively and negatively.

Positive Impact of Globalisation

- Increased jobs: Due to entry of MNCs, jobs for women have increased. Eg: Service sector economy
- Globalisation has given a boost to urbanisation which has indirectly improved socio-economic position of women
- Globalisation has led to rise of organisation like SEWA (Self Employed Women's Association) which promote women to tap their potential

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→ Globalisation has encouraged feminist movements (Eg MeToo) and values like gender equality, justice etc which strike at roots of patriarchy.

Negative impact of Globalisation

- → Commodification of women: Eg Advertisement industry
- → Glass Ceiling effect: Women not given opportunity to rise beyond a certain level
- → Dual burden: Job (~~informal sector~~) + Domestic Work
- → Increasing women employment + persistence of patriarchal mindset ⇓ sexual harassment of women at work place
- → Women employment is largely created in informal sector

Though globalisation has created enormous opportunities for women, however it needs to be ~~assured~~ ensured that women are empowered enough to bag such opportunities.

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3. It has been argued that private sector reduces education to the status of a commodity. In this context, discuss why education should be seen as a necessary public good. (150 words) 10

Private education has helped to increase literacy rate, enrollment rate, investment in education sector, modern facilities etc in education ecosystem. However it is often alledged that private sector has commodified education because of high tution fees, capitation fees, high charges for using high-tech and modern infrastructure, coaching industry etc.

However education should be available to all as a public good based on principle on non-exclusivity. This is because:

(I) Education is a fundamental right which is avaible to all (Art 21 A, universal education from 6-14 yrs)

(II) Education is a tool of empowerment

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as it decides the employability of an individual

(III) Demographic dividend : If India wants to reap its demographic dividend, education should be available as a public good.

(IV) Decreasing disparity : Education to all would ensure balanced regional development and help decrease gap between rural & urban areas and between developed and less developed states.

(V) It would help decrease NEET (not in Education, Employment and Training) population (in 2017 = 30%) in India.

By treating education as a public good, the goal of National Education Policy 2020, of making India a knowledge economy would be attained.

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4. Despite undertaking many initiatives, malnutrition continues to be a matter of concern for India. Analyse. (150 words) 10

Malnutrition refers to defeciency, excess or imbalance in a person's intake of energy and/or nutrients.

Initiatives to counter malnutrition in India

- Poshan Abhyan: improving nutritional outcomes of children, adolescents and pregnant and lactating women
- ICDS | Integrated Child Development Services - Supplementary nutrition provided
- Mid Meal Scheme
- SABLA: To provide nutritional support to Adolescent girls (11-18yrs)
- Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakaram.

However malnutrition is still a concern because:

(I) Global Hunger Index, 2019 - India is ranked 102 out of 117 nation

(II) Findings of NFHS-4 (2015-16)

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- Wasting = 21% (In NHHS 3 = 20%)
- Underweight = 35% (NFHS 3 = 42%)
- Stunting = 38% (NFHS 3 = 48%)

As per Global Nutrition report, 2018, India carries 1/3 burden of global stunting.

(II) Condition is miserable in states like Madhya Pradesh, where stunting and underweight population among children = 42%.

(IV) Severe micro-nutrient defeciency — Vitamin A, Iron, Zinc, Iodine in India.

To improve the situation and attain SDG Goal 2 of Zero Hunger, multi steps like improving PDS System, going for fortification, diversification and supplementation along with improving child feeding practices is needed.

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5. Critically discuss the idea that followers of a religion share not only a community of religious interests but also common secular interests.
(150 words) 10

India is a land of many religions - Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists etc. The followers of one religion share common religious interests like reading Namaz, offering prayers to God, performing havans etc.

However they share common secular interests also:

(I) Culture: People of same religion share the same culture. Eg: Vasudeva Kutumbukam (Hinduism), Universal brotherhood (Sikhism) etc.

(II) Peace and order: Followers of a religion would always desire peace and stability in the society.

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(III) Common economic interests : Followers of a religion would desire a growing economy as it would be beneficial in interests of all.

(IV) Stable polity : as it would lead to certainity and would be beneficial in long run

(V) Fraternity and brotherhood : as it would maintain unity, which would strengthen our social fabric.

Secular interests are common not only among people of same religion but across all communities because the fundamentals of a harmonious society are same across all religions

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6. The constant and aggravated contact with the Western culture has had an erosional impact on the Indian value system. Critically discuss. (150 words) 10

Due to globalisation, western culture is affecting the Indian value system. Though some analysts believe that this process has eroded the Indian value system, however the Indian value system has imbibed some good features also.

Positive impact of contact with Western culture

(I) Rationalism: Superstitions had become a part of indigenous system. Contact with western culture helped realise the importance of reason and science.

(II) Gender equality: Contact with western culture has helped to improve the position of women by countering patriarchy,

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(III) Openess : Indian society has become more open to new ideas as compared to 19th century.

(IV) New ideas like humanism, liberty etc have been well received by Indian society.

Negative impact of contact with Western Culture

(I) Consumerism : due to impact of social media, hollywood etc.

(II) Family bonds : due to emphasis on individualism, family bonds have been weakening.

(III) Institution of marriage : Increasing divorce rate, live in relationship etc.

(IV) Commodification of women : Advertisement industry, Pornography etc.

Value system cannot remain static. We need to learn new elements while ensuring resilience of good elements of native value system.

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7. A dispersed pattern of urbanisation leads to sprawl with associated problems. In this context, discuss how India should manage the inevitable process of urban growth going into the future. (150 words) 10

As per World Bank, 34% of India's population was living in urban areas in 2017, which is expected to cross 50% by 2050. Due to rapid rate of urbanisation, urban sprawl is taking place which stretches the urban infrastructure and leads to unplanned and haphazardous expansion of city.

To manage urban growth for future, following steps need to be taken:

(I) Transit Oriented Development (Hong Kong Model) to ensure maximum people inhabit the core region of city.

(II) Housing facility: Low cost housing should be promoted by relaxing FSI (Floor Space Index) Norms and

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implementing Model Land Tenancy Act.

(III) Improving city infrastructure through schemes like AMRUT, Smart Cities Mission etc to increase carrying capacity of cities.

(IV) Improving infrastructure in rural areas (RURBAN Mission) to slow down rate of urbanisation

(V) Improved city planning / Master Plans and ensuring provision of low cost housing for migrants.

(VI) Speedy development of Tier II & III cities to decrease pressure on megacities.

This will help in achieving SDG Goal 11 — Resilient, Inclusive, Safe and Sustainable cities.

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8. Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) are in dire need of focused attention in view of the problems they are facing. Discuss. (150 words) 10

Out of a total of about 705 Scheduled Tribes in India, 75 tribes are PVTGs.

Due to their nature, PVTGs face some problems.

PROBLEMS

- Stagnant or declining population
  Eg: Sentenelese, in 2001 census = 39; 2011 census = 15
- Health issues: due to isolation, their body is unable to fight against diseases like TB, etc
- Education: Low literacy rate (10-45%)
- Poor implementation of Forest Rights Act, 2006 (FRA)
- Displacement due to infrastructure ~~to~~ projects
- Recognition: Eg: Paudi Bhuyans of Odisha were not recognised by state government till June 2020

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Government is taking steps like Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Scheme (SCA - TSS), Scheme for Development of PVTGs, Van Bandhu Kalyan Yojna etc.

Way Forward

- Proper implementation of FRA, 2006 and PESA, 1996
- Implementation of recommendations of Xara Committee
  - giving more power to Gram Sabhas, returning land after mining to Gram Sabhas (as done by Andhra Pradesh government) etc

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9. Highlight the challenges associated with the rising number of old age dependents in India. What can be done to deal with these challenges? (150 words) 10

As per Sample Registration Survey 2018, elderly people (60 years and above) form 8% of total population. This section of population faces numerous challenges:

Challenges
- Abuse: The incidents of physical abuse of elderly are increasing
- Financial vulnerability due to lack of social security, increases dependence on other family members
- Ailments / Morbidities: Diseases like diabetes, mobility issues etc.
- Neglect / Abandonment: forced to take refuge in old age homes.
- Lack of health infrastructure to address requirements of this section (geriatric care)

Steps to deal with these challenges

(I) Financial security: PM Vaya Vandana

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Yojna, Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension etc are steps in right direction. (Monthly pension however needs to be revised).

(II) Provision of physical aids and assisted living devices - Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojna (by ALIMCO)

(III) Government should increase creation of Day Care Centres for elderly people. CSR funds can be used in this regard

(IV) ~~E~~NGOs working in field in active and productive ageing should be encouraged.

(V) Ensuring basic amenities like food, shelter, medicine etc for elder - Integrated Programme for Older People (IPOP)

Multistakeholder approach involving government, youth, NGOs, civil soudy etc need to work jointly to improve situation of elderly.

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10. Highlight the impact of drug addiction on individuals, families and society. In this context, discuss the approach adopted by National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction. (150 words) 10

According to UN World Drug Report 2019, drug use in India increased by 30% from 2009 to 2019.

Drug addiction impacts not only the individual by also family and society.

(I) Individual → physical, psychological and moral degeneration. Drug addicts often have mental disorder, suffer from diseases like HIV etc.

(II) Family → face financial stress, children are often deprived of education, domestic violence etc.

(III) Society: Degeneration of human resource (loss of demographic dividend), increases crime rate, ~~crea~~ pressure on law and order administration etc.

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Approach of National Action Plan on Drug Demand Reduction

- Awareness generation & preventive education
- Community involvement – Mahila Mandals, SHG etc
- co-ordination with implementing agencies w.r.t sale of psychotrophic drugs
- Steering committee headed by Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- Treatment and rehabilitation of addicts.

Besides this government has also launched Scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse and National Centre for Drug Abuse Prevention

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11. A Uniform Civil Code is a much needed step for India to move forward in the 21st century. Critically analyse. (250 words) 15

As per Article 44 of Indian Constitution, The State shall endeavour to create a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) for all its citizens. UCC would result into common set of laws for all personal matters – marriage, adoption, inheritance, maintanence and divorce for all citizens.

There are arguements both, in favour and against UCC.

Need of UCC

- → Harmonise different socio-cultural practices across different religions
- → National Integration – The then CJI, Y.V Chandrachud in Shah Bano Case, 1985 said that UCC would help in national integration
- → End discriminatory practices against women. Eg: Polygamy

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- It would simplify legal system of India
- It would give an identity to Indian state.

Arguements against UCC

- Some analysts argue that UCC goes against right to practice religion (Art 25)
- It might give a hit to multi-cultural nature of India.
- Cherrypicking practices across different religions is not only subjective but a difficult task.
- It would go against constitutional provisions for protection of culture of states like Nagaland, Mizoram etc
- Might be seen by minorities as imposition of majority culture.

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Law Commission of India in its Report - Reform of Family Laws 2018 recommended that neither it is the right time nor there is need of UCC. It rather recommended codification of all personal laws as it would do away with practices which go against fundamental rights while incorporating other diverse practices.

However if UCC is to implemented, ~~developing~~ attempt should be made to develop consensus across ~~count~~ communities and it should be seen as a modernising reform

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12. In India, geography, identity and a sense of deprivation have historically combined to drive regionalism. Elaborate. (250 words) 15

Regionalism refers to a sense of togetherness due to geographical concentration of identity markers (culture, language, ethnicity etc), generally fuelled by a sense of relative deprivation (real or perceived)

Regionalism in India has been driven by combined effect of geography, identity and sense of deprivation. This can be explained as following:

(I) Demand of secession in Mizoram erupted soon after independence. Led by Laldenga, {MNF} stressed on tribal identity and deprivation to carve a separate geographical entity for Mizos.

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(II) Creation of 3 separate states of Chattisgarh, Uttrakhand and Jharkhand. Geographical element (Chattisgarh and Jharkhand are rich in mineral resource), along with separate identity (eg hill people in case of Uttrakhand and tribals in case of Jharkhand), fired by feeling of regional deprivation (weak socio-economic indicators) led to creation of these states.

(III) Demand for Nagalim: Phizo led the movement for separate Naga Nation in 1950s. Tribal identity and sense of deprivation have been the reasons for struggle by NSCN (IM) & NSCN (K) [Framework Agreement signed in 2015]

(IV) Demand for Gorkhaland: Gorkha identity, concentrated in tea growing regions of West Bengal, flared

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by sense of relative deprivation due to geography has led to demand for separate state of Gorkhaland.

(V) Skewed development in Purvanchal, Vidharbha, Maru Pradesh etc has promoted regionalism in the region.

Though regionalism is not bad per se, but to prevent it from taking a disintegrative form, devolution of powers and functions should take place to third tier of government. 5th & 6th Schedule should be implemented effectively, along with PESA, 1996.

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13. According to the WHO, health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well being. In this context, discuss emerging trends in mental health issues in India. (250 words) 15

According to WHO, Mental Health is a state of well being such that an individual is able to use his/her creativity, face normal stress in life and contribute to society.

Emerging trends in mental health issues in India

(I) Increasing cases: As per National Mental Health Survey (NMHS), 2015, 150 mn Indians were facing mental health issues. WHO estimates that 20% population in India would suffer from mental health issues by 2020.

(II) Critical shortage of health experts
NMHS 2015 reported that there are only 2 mental health workers and 0.3 psychiatrists per 10,000 population

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in India

(III) Increasing incidence of anxiety and depression leading to increase in suicide rate.

(IV) Less spending on mental health: National Programme on Mental Health (NPMH) is not adequately funded.

(V) Lack of awareness and stigmatisation: People are not aware about symptoms of mental disorders and there is stigma attached to mental health diseases.

Steps taken

(I) National Mental Health Programme

(II) District Mental Health Programme (1996)

(III) Mental Health Act, 2017

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Way Forward

- Increasing number of psychiatrists and mental health workers
- Generating awareness to do away with stigma associated with mental health
- Telemedicine Eg Schrizophrenia Research Foundation's (SCARF) mobile clinic
- Increasing spending on mental health as a percentage of health budget.

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14. What are the challenges associated with cultural diversity in India? How has India been able to accommodate and manage this cultural diversity? **(250 words) 15**

Indian society is an expleification of multicultural, multi-religious, multi-racial and multi-ideological constructs exhibiting uniformity which maintaining their distinctiveness.

However, India has faced challenges associated with cultural diversity.

Challenges
- → Regionalism : Demand for secessionism in past - eg, Khalistan, Dravida Nadu, Nagalim etc
- → Communalism : due to religious orthodoxy and intolerance Eg: Gujrat riots (2002), recent riots in north-east Delhi etc.
- → Sons of Soil Movement : Conflict between Bengali muslims and Bodos in Assam (2012), migrants from UP and Bihar in Maharashtra etc.

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→ Identity politics : Divisive politics as votes are sought in name of caste, religion etc.

→ Racism : Exodus of people of north-east from Bangalore (2012), Nido Tania murder case (2014) etc

Though there have been issues which have gone against the multicultural spirit of India, however India has been able to accomodate and manage its cultural diversity because of:

(I) Cultural ethos of India : SARVA DHARMA SAMBHAV, VASUDEVA KUTUMBUKAM etc.

(II) Single constitution which binds the entire nation. Its provisions allow constitution to flourish.

(III) Federal polity which accomodates diversity. Eg: formation of separate state of Andhra Pradesh

(IV) Special provisions : eg Sch 5 & 6 which preserves, protects and promotes

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cultural diversity.

(V) Tolerance : as values propounded by Sufi and Bhakti movement during medieval times, still guide the Indian citizens.

India is a potpourri of different cultures. While recognising the differences, it strives for unity, without uniformity

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15. The high incidence of poverty combined with multiple deprivations among poor is the most important development challenge for India. Discuss.
(250 words) 15

According to Multi-dimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2018 by UNDP and OPHI, India pulled 261 mn people out of poverty from 2005-06 to 2015-16. However still 373 mn people face acute deprivations

Poverty and Multiple deprivations

(I) Health: According to Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), 5.5 crore people in India went below poverty line in 2018, because of out of pocket health expenditure.

(II) Education: weak learning outcomes as highlighted by successive ASER report

(III) Nutrition: Global Hunger Index,

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2019 ranked India 102. out of 117 nations.

(IV) Electricity supply : As per a survey by MoRD in 2018, 20% people in rural areas receive electricity supply for less that 8 hours

(V) Water supply : NSSO Survey, 2018, 80% people in India don't have piped drinking water facility in their homes.

This is a developmental challenge as:

(I) Poverty : Without development of human resource, SDG Goal 1 of ending extreme poverty by 2030 will not be achieved.

(II) Demographic dividend will not be reaped (SRS, 2018 → 66% of Indias

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population is between age group (15-59 yrs)

(iii) Weaker sections like SC, ST, women, disabled etc will remain vulnerable

(iv) India might fall into Middle Income Trap

(v) Would lead to rise of social tensions like Nasalism, reservation demands etc

Government should ensure proper implementation of schemes like PMAY, MGNREGA etc while ensuring proper skilling of youth. Giving a boost to MSMEs (because of their labour intensive nature) would be a step in right direction.

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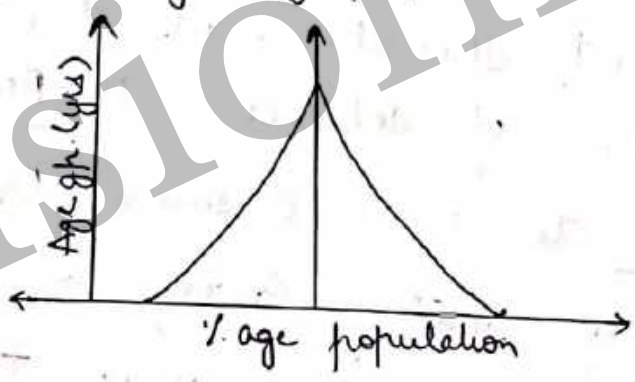
16. Highlighting the population growth trend of India in the last few decades, identify the key contributing factors behind this trend. **(250 words) 15**

As per UN's Population Division, India would become most populated country in 2024.

Over the decades, the population growth of India has shown transitions

(I) 1921-51 = Stage of steady population growth

(II) 1951-81 = Stage of population explosion



(III) 1981- Present = Population is increasing at a decreasing rate.

Eg - Decadal Growth rate of population

- → 1981-91 = 24%
- → 1991-2001 = 21.5%
- → 2001-11 = 17.5%

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Key factors behind the trend

- Increasing development : As per population transition theory, as nation's development takes place, rate of growth of population decreases
- Increasing education : Education of mother is correlated to Total fertility rate (TFR). SRS, 2018 reported that ~~if~~ in the cases where female was a graduate, TFR was 1.7
- Decreasing poverty : With decreasing poverty comes more awareness about size of family.
- Family planning programme ~~of~~ by government
  Eg: Mission Parivar Vikas, awareness generation by ASHA workers etc.
- Urbanisation : In urban areas, TFR is less than rural areas. As more and more population is migrating towards urban areas, rate of population growth is decreasing.

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Since the TFR is nearing the Replacement Level, family planning in India should focus more on reproductive health care and RMNCH+A healthcare.

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17. Caste in India has maintained its political significance despite dilution of its social character. Discuss with relevant examples. (250 words) 15

Caste System refers to a system of social and occupational segregation of people based on the notion of purity and pollution.

However, due to following reasons, social character of caste has diluted.

Reasons
- → Constitution of India, based on the idea of equality, has banned untouchability (Article 17)
- → Laws: Eg Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955; SC-ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 etc.
- → Urbanisation: Influence of caste or caste based discrimination is less in urban areas
- → Ideas of equality, fraternity humanism, tolerance etc are

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influencing large sections of society.

However in political sphere, the influence of caste has increased. This can be explained by:

(I) Mandalisation of politics : rise of caste based politics.

(II) Backward caste movement led to rise of parties like BSP (Kanshi Ram), Samajwadi Party etc.

(III) Rise of identity politics - Vote bank politics.

(IV) ~~A~~ MN Srinivas called this MODERN AVATAR OF CASTE as caste calculations have begun to strongly influence Indian elections

(V) Caste based reservation issue - Eg: Maratha reservation, Jat reservation

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(VI) Sub-categorisation of Backward castes eg Mahadalits / Ati-dalits in Bihar.

Caste has shown immense resilience in political ecosystem. Political will is required to shun use of caste for divisive politics and instead seek votes on the grounds of development and governance.

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18. It can be argued that caste like social stratification is a feature present across religious distinctions in India. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

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19. What are some of the problems faced by migrants in urban areas in India? Suggest some policy reforms to address these problems. (250 words) 15

As per the estimates of central government, there are about 4 crore migrant workers in India. They faced a difficult time when the COVID 19 pandemic started.

Migrants face some specific problems in urban areas:

(I) Housing: Most of migrant workers are forced to live in slums with poor sanitation, drinking water facility etc.

(II) Access to government schemes: like PM Awas Yojna etc because they mostly don't have identity / residential proofs.

(III) Livelihood: Most of them have no option but to join low paying informal jobs which offer no social

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security.

(IV) Isolation / Alienation at psychological level due to distance from their native place

(V) Sons of Soil Movement / Cultural backlash as many a times migrants are seen as usurpurers of native jobs / livelihood opportunities.

Need of Policy reforms

→ Access of schemes should be simplified, eg One Nation, One Ration Card, so that migrants can take their benefit.

→ States should properly implement Interstate Migrant Workmen Act, 1979

→ City planning should give due emphasis to housing requirement of mining

→ Financial Inclusion of Migrants to

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→ promote saving
→ Legal aid should be provided to migrants if they have been discriminated with respect to wages at workplace

Migration would drive India's urbanisation in next decade. To make migration to urban areas sustainable, we need to create SMART VILLAGES along with Smart Cities, which are linked & inter-connected to cities

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20. Highlight the need and challenges of mainstreaming vocational education in India. What measures have been taken by the government in this regard? **(250 words) 15**

As distinct from general education, vocational education deals with imparting 'practical' skills to the student, so that he/she can master a specific craft or trade.

Need of mainstreaming vocational education

(I) To increase employability of unskilled workers, as 85% of India's workforce is in ~~uns~~ informal sector.

(II) To reap demographic Dividend (SRS 2018 – 66% of India's population in 15-59 age group)

(III) To decrease poverty: High skill → High demand → High Pay

(IV) Skilled workforce is necessary to usher in Industrial Revolution 4.0

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(V) To increase labour productivity and competitiveness : It would help India tap its export potential and become world's factory.

Challenges in mainstreaming Vocational edu.

(I) Not considered a part of school curriculum.

(II) Non standardisation across different institutions offering courses and certificates of vocational education

(III) Missing industry - academia link.

(IV) Lack of skill training centres and teachers that impart skill.

(V) ~~Social~~ Societal perception : Skill training is looked down upon in society.

Measures taken

(I) National Education Policy : Vocational education from 6th class onwards

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(II) National Council of Vocational Education and Training (NCVET) to recognise & regulate training institutes

(III) National Skill ~~Development Corporation~~ Qualification Framework: nationally integrated education and competency based skill framework

(IV) National Skill Development Corporation promotes skill development by creating large, quality & for profit vocational institutions

These measures would help India not only reap demographic dividend but will also lead to inclusive development

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